

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Attorney Docket No. 50169/110



In re patent application of

Wallace T.Y. TANG

Continuation of Serial No. 08/401,229

Filed: August 14, 1998

For: IN-SITU REAL-TIME MONITORING TECHNIQUE AND  
APPARATUS FOR DETECTION OF THIN FILMS DURING  
CHEMICAL/MECHANICAL POLISHING PLANARIZATION

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.56**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or is considered to be material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action

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which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a prima facie prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

**CONCISE EXPLANATION OF  
RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT**

Applicant is submitting herewith on Form PTO-1449, a listing of the documents cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in parent application Serial No. 08/401,229, filed March 9, 1995. The relevance of these documents is explained in the parent application.

As provided in 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of the documents are not being provided since they were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in parent application Serial No. 08/401,229 filed March 9, 1995.

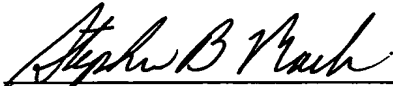
Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b) within three (3) months of the filing date, no fee is required in connection with its filing.

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Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialled copy of Form PTO-1449 be returned in accordance with M.P.E.P. § 609.

Respectfully submitted,

August 14, 1998  
Date

  
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